Vol. III. Numb. I.

The EXAMINER.

From Thursday *October* 23, to Thursday *October* 30, 1712.

Volvende dies, en! attulit ultrò. Virg.

THE *Date* of this *Paper* being ſo near the Day on which the *Chief Magiſtrate* of this *Great City* is ſolemnly admitted to his Office, I thought I could not employ it better, than in a View of thoſe many Corruptions, and that notorious Miſmanagement, under which our *Capital* has for ſome time laboured, during the Adminiſtration of an Inſolent, Arbitrary Party. I do this with the greater Satisfaction, becauſe we have now ſome Reſpite at leaſt from theſe Diſorders, by having the Chair at preſent filled with a *Worthy Magiſtrate*, who when far *below* it, was ſuch an Ornament to the City; and whoſe Example, we have reaſon to hope, will be ſhining enough to attract the Imitation of many *Succeſſors*. When the Party found that All was going, and the City, as well as Crown and Kingdom, ripe for that Great Change, to which we owe our preſent Liberties and Happineſs; when they ſaw the *Election to Parliament* run in favour of *All Four*, which was more than the moſt ſanguine of the other Side could promiſe, and no reſerve for a *Whig-Scrutiny*; when their Leaders had ſufficiently expoſed themſelves and their Cauſe in that Impudent Attempt on the Rights of Monarchy, in which too their *Allies* from the *Hague* ran away with the Honour of the Invention, like Proſtitutes caught in the very Act, they threw off the Vizor, declared themſelves openly, and launched out into all the Outrages of Oppreſſion and Violence. They had then a Tool at the Helm, who ſeemed to be formed by their own Pattern, and was Body and Soul in their Intereſt: His Superſcription as well as Inſide are the exact Copy of a *Bloated Burgomaſter:* He had been trained to the Service in the moſt approved Academies, the *Calves-Head*, *Kit-Cat*, &c. and is now doing Humble Pennance in *Popes-Head-Alley*, ſucking in the Dregs of Conſolation from fatherleſs Libels, and abortive Pamphlets, and improving that *Little Thorough-fare* in the Noble Manufacture of *Political Lying*, even beyond the Renown of *Change-Alley*, its neareſt and moſt formidable Rival. During this Adminiſtration, and whilſt this Doughty Governour was happily ſucceeded by a Creature of his own Spawning, as great a Tool to his Predeceſſor, as the Predeceſſor had been to his Party, how miſerably the City was Harraſſed and Inſulted, is a Scene of ſo much Horror and Melancholy, that though now it is over, it may make an admirable *Farce* in the Repetition, yet it was but too deep a *Tragedy* whilſt we ſaw and felt it, and whilſt the Actors were ſtrutting upon the Stage. *Majorities* were declared, not upon the View, but according to the Wiſhes of the Magiſtrate; by the Bleſſed Precedent of *Forty-One*, and in utter Defiance to *Cocker* and *Wingate*. When the *Poll* ran againſt them, they took Refuge in a *Scrutiny*; where all the written Evidences were at their own Diſpoſal, and, at a Club, or in a Tavern, might perhaps, after the Second Bottle, receive a ſmall Blot or Stain ſome where in a *Tory Column*, without any Malice or Deſign; at leaſt, the final Deciſion was to be made by them, and the *Poll-Book* to be for ever after as great a Secret as the *Original Contract*. Should any of their own Authors, by the Bright Example of the Worthy Compiler of the *Secret Hiſtory of Europe*, pervert any of theſe *Private Memoirs* into *Publick Hiſtories*, and after that, into a *General Hiſtory*, under the amazing Title of Facts, *never ſeen* nor *heard of*, as well as *never Publiſhed before*; and ſhould they oblige us with any of the Debates at large upon ſome of theſe memorable Occaſions; how would ſuch Noble and Elegant Exordiums——— *Sirrah! hold your Tongue!* ——*Sirrah! I'll lay you by the Heels!* Or, in the more moderate Stile, —— *Come! come! you are a diſaffected Perſon, and ought to be taken care of,*—— By way of Reply to ſome ſawcy Citizen, who durſt mention Liberty and Property, or queſtion their unbounded Prerogative; how would theſe Outſhine the Dull Harangues of one of the *Ephori* of *Sparta* or an *Archon* of *Athens*, as recited in *Thucydides* or *Nepos?* As for thoſe *Dumb Orators* recorded in the *Amſterdam Gazette*; want of Abilities is no Exception to the Well-affected: Though, if that *Remote Eccho* had, contrary to the Nature of all others of the Kind, been pleaſed to *Repeat* ſome of thoſe Orations, it would have been the *Firſt Time* that we heard them. I ſhould wrong the Intentions of theſe Men, to ſuppoſe them *Guilty* of the leaſt regard for Law or Juſtice; only indeed theſe Proceedings were ſometimes introduced with very ſtrenuous Harangues from One of their own *Chaplains*, in praiſe of *Charity* and *Moderation*; but this part of the Farce they very Religiouſly palm'd upon the Church, for ſome of their *Furr'd Auditors* brought as little of that Doctrine from Church, as they carried to it; reſerving their beſt Attention for a more *Solemn Anniverſary*, when a *Dean* or a *Dignitary* ſhould be appointed to tell them, *How ſafely they might Reſiſt the Supreme Power*, even in a State, and at a Time, when they had it in their Hearts to make this Deputy for that Year, Abſolute and Uncontroulable. When any of their Elections, by an unhappy Cuſtom, were to be made in a Conſecrated Place, they ſeldom parted, without polluting ſome of the Veſſels of the Sanctuary with *the Mark of the Beaſt* in Forty One. Then, what a Medley did they bring toge-

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together, *Ranters*, *Enthuſiaſts*; *Some* not Chriſtians by Profeſſion? How near a reſemblance was this to the *Valley* of *Jeoſophat*? Not an honeſt *Candidate* could appear, but their whole Mint of Scandal was opened upon him. Such Railing, and giving out of Watch-words for every Coffee-houſe; ſuch tracing of Characters; ſuch ſolliciting of Oppoſition! whilſt their Patriots were either *Foreigners* or *Upſtarts*, whoſe good or ill Actions were equally a Secret; or *Occaſional Conformiſts*, whoſe Conſcience being a *Non-Ens*, is not within the Law of Solids, incapable of Coercion and Retention, and cannot be bound by any *Act*, though of **Diſmal**'s own Drawing. How often would they teaſe a poor *Ward* with *Re-elections* and *Scrutinies*, if they offered to ſet their Hearts upon a Gentleman of Worth and Loyalty? How would they draw down their heavy Artillery of the *Bank* to widen a Breach, whilſt their *Mirmidons* were preparing for a Storm? Their laſt reſort was this: Should the injur'd Party take refuge in a *Quo Warranto*, however juſtly incurred, this would fill their Mouths with the known *Shibboleth* of, King *James*! Lord Chancellor *Jefferies*! *Arbitrary Power*! and ſeizing of *Charters*! Beſides, they had a *Manager* at *one* end of the Cauſe as well as the *other*, who knew well enough to quaſh a Proſecution with ſa *Form*, though the Liberties of half a Million of Citizens depended on that Iſſue. *Oppreſſion will make a wiſe Man mad*; no wonder then, if, after ſuch Management, a few miſ-guided Members of the Populace, ſhould celebrate the Feaſt of St. *Simon* and *Jude* with the Ceremony of *Hiſſing*, and a *dirty Cat*: Such Magiſtrates had met with another ſort of Treatment at *Thebes* or *Lacedemon*; though there they had been abſolute *De jure*, as well as *De facto*. Now can theſe Gentlemen, when their Publick Character is expired, expect to be uſed with decency, whom not the *Royal Preſence*, nor Honour of the Crown could confine, to a very ſhort interval of good Breeding: Witneſs their ſlovenly Conduct at that extraordinary *Criſis*, when they were inviting a *Popiſh General* to their *Proteſtant Stadt-Houſe* at *Guild-hall*. When Men are delivered from the Paws of Tyrants and Oppreſſors, their Joy will be extravagant; but Inſolence in Jeſt, is not half ſo bad as Inſolence in Earneſt.

POSTSCRIPT.

A true and full Account of the ſucceſsful Management of our late Governors in *London*, having been tranſmitted to ſeveral diſaffected Corporations for their Imitation, and having been particularly ſerviceable to the Party at *Colcheſter*; all other Country Magiſtrates who are preparing to follow their Example, are deſired to forbear till a better and more honeſt Precedent ſhall be ſet them.

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LONDON: Printed for JOHN MORPHEW, near *Stationers-Hall*, 1712.